

CURRENT LITERATURE.

Minor Notices.

THE SECOND VOLUME¹ of biological lectures delivered at the marine biological laboratory of Woods Holl has recently appeared, the first volume having appeared in 1890. Ten lectures are included, all given by investigators upon subjects connected with their own work, and all presenting current problems. It would be impossible to review a work made up of so many important and independent parts, and where each part is the compact presentation of a large subject. It is sufficient to indicate such titles as are of botanical or general biological interest, and to state that this collection of lectures is one that every student of biology should read. The botanical and biological titles are: The mosaic theory of development, E. B. Wilson; The fertilization of the ovum, E. G. Conklin; On some facts and principles of physiological morphology, J. Loeb; Dynamics in evolution, J. A. Ryder; On the nature of cell organization, S. Watasé; The inadequacy of the cell-theory of development, C. O. Whitman; The influence of external conditions on plant life, W. P. Wilson; Irrito-contractility in plants, J. M. Macfarlane.

THE PROCEEDINGS of the Indiana Academy of Sciences for the year 1892 have been issued and recently distributed. They form a creditable volume of 169 pages and two plates. The botanical part embraces seventeen papers given by title only, and nine given in full or nearly so. The latter are: *Grinnellia Americana*, by M. A. BRANNON; Botanical field work in western Idaho, by D. T. MACDOUGAL; The application of mathematics in botany, by KATHERINE E. GOLDEN; Notes on certain plants of southwestern Indiana, by JOHN S. WRIGHT; Epidermis and spines of *Cactaceæ*, by E. B. ULINE; The genus *Cactus*, by E. M. FISHER; An auxanometer for the registration of the growth of stems in thickness (with plate), by KATHERINE E. GOLDEN; Notes on *Pediastrum*, by W. L. BRAY; and The Lilly herbarium and its work, by JOHN S. WRIGHT.

¹ Biological lectures delivered at the marine biological laboratory of Woods Holl, in the summer session of 1893. Large 8vo. pp. 242. Ginn & Co., Boston. 1894.